

THE Zuni Indians were a singular tribe inhabiting New Mexico, U. S., whose mystic services have attracted the attention of Masonic scholars, in consequence of their similarity to those in vogue by the Masonic fraternity. These Indians have a formal religious initiation, in which the suppliant kneels at the altar to take his vows, after being received upon the point of an instrument of torture to the flesh. Among their forms and ceremonies are, facing the east, circumambulation, tests of endurance, and being peculiarly clothed. Incense is burned, and the sun worshipped at its rising.—*Hebrew Leader.*

LET the possessor of the secrets of Freemasonry be expatriated, shipwrecked or imprisoned; let him be stripped of everything he has got in the world, these credentials remain. They have stayed the hand of the destroyer; they have softened the asperities of the tyrant; they have mitigated the horrors of captivity; they have subdued the rancor of malevolence, and broken down the barrier of political animosity. On the field of battle, in the solitudes of the uncultivated forest, and in the busy haunts of the crowded city, they have made friends of the most hostile feelings.—*N. Y. Dispatch.*

FREEMASONRY is not to be regarded in a narrow way, as though its mission began and ended with the organization itself. There are two functions appertaining to the Masonic institution—first, internally, in relation to its own members, for their fellowship, comfort, and mutual helpfulness; and secondly, externally, to apply the principles of the craft in all departments of related life. The world at large is benefitted as the Masonic spirit is diffused and has prevailing power. Let us not forget that it is one part of the mission of our great brotherhood to minister to the public welfare—to advance the rule of “sweetness and light” among men.

THE Grand Master of Texas rules as follows, in regard to physical disqualification:—

“The loss of an eye, and half of the second or middle finger, I have decided to be such physical defects as disqualified applicants from being initiated. These questions about physical defects have been so often determined by this Grand Lodge, it is surprising that any decision in relation thereto should now be invoked.”

THE Grand Lodge of New Jersey adopted the following resolution:—

“Resolved,—That no officer, member, or visiting brother, or other person, shall communicate to any reporter, editor, or other person connected with any newspaper, any fact, circumstance, or other matter that may be presented to or acted upon by the Grand Lodge, except such information be furnished by the Grand Secretary, with the approval of the M. W. Grand Master.”

“I HAVE NO TIME TO READ,” is the most frequent excuse given for declining to subscribe for a Masonic periodical, and it is the reason often assigned for discontinuing a subscription. Ought such a statement to be made by the average Mason? Ought not the Masonic fraternity to include a class of members, who, for the most part will have time to read? Is it not needful that they should, if possible, take sufficient time to read articles that will make them better acquainted with the character and work of the organization into which they have entered? Bro. James W. Stanton, of Kentucky, in a recently published letter, says:—“The truth is, there is too little reading done by Masons of all classes, hence their general ignorance as to the affairs of the Masonic world. No man can be posted and intelligent on any subject who does not read, and Masonry is no exception to the rule.”